

# NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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***For Immediate Release***

**APRIL 20, 2005**

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on April 6, 2005, **PAMELA SUE KING**, age 42, of Flora, Illinois, **JASON S. SESSIONS**, age 28, of West Salem, Illinois, **VAN DEAN RUNYON**, age 46, of Olney, Illinois, and **DAVID W. DUGAN**, age 41, of Dundas, Illinois, were charged in a one count Superseding Indictment returned by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois.

Count 1 charged that from on or about 1999, the exact date being unknown, through on or about February 6, 2005, in Richland County, Clay County, and elsewhere in the Southern District of Illinois, KING, SESSIONS, RUNYON, and DUGAN did knowingly and intentionally combine, conspire, and agree with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to knowingly and intentionally manufacture and distribute fifty (50) grams or more of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine, a Schedule II controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(B); all in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.

All four defendants face a penalty of 5-40 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 4 years.

An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

The investigation was conducted by the Richland County Sheriff's Office and the Illinois State Police pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors are working together to prosecute drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and criminals that use firearms to commit violent offenses or drug trafficking offenses in the Southern District of Illinois.

Both the Clay County and Richland County States Attorney's Office have assisted throughout the investigation, and each State's Attorney's Office has prosecuted a number of individuals in related cases in Clay County and Richland County Circuit Court.

The case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney George Norwood.